CHAPTER 18

THIS ISN'T A NICE PLACE.

INDEED, JUST AS THE NAME SUGGESTS.

T-THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD...

LEAVE IT ALL TO ME.

NOW, KEI GAI.

MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THE DEAD AT BAY WITH THAT FANCY SINGING OF YOURS.

IT PROBABLY WON'T WORK RIGHT AWAY.

TO MANIPULATE THE CORPSES I'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THE PITCH ACCORDING TO THE AGE OF THEIR DEAD BODIES.

I AM COUNTING ON YOU TO HOLD OFF THE DEAD.

UNDER-STOOD.

WHILE I START MY SINGING IT'LL BE NECESSARY FOR ME TO BE SURROUNDED BY A BARRIER.

YOU'RE A GUARDIAN OF THE SEAL, AREN'T YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT.

SIR SHU AND KEN.

PLEASE HOLD THIS SASH.

WE THREE ARE GOING TO HOLD THIS AND SURROUND KEI GAI TO CREATE A BARRIER.

ONCE THE BARRIER HAS BEEN ERECTED, PLEASE PUT YOUR WEAPONS INTO THE GROUND.

RIGHT.

OKAY.

ゴホン

HERE WE GO.

HERE THEY COME.

!

NOW, YOU UNFORTUNATE SOULS ...

...AND TURN TO ETERNAL REST!

FOR-GET YOUR DREAMS OF HUN-GER

I THINK IT WORKED.

!

ピク

ピク

TAN HI, THE BARRIER!

THERE'S MORE OF THEM.

WHAT THE HELL.

LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO TRY AGAIN.

I'LL ACTIVATE THE BARRIER!

RIGHT!

OOPS.

WAH!

WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON!?

WHAT THE...

YOU...IDIOT!! WHY ARE YOU OUTSIDE THE BARRIER!?

SORRY, BUT THIS ALL WON'T END UNTIL THE SINGING WORKS.

I THINK THE BARRIER'S LIMIT WAS SIX PEOPLE.

SIR SHO!

TELL ME SOME-THING I DON'T KNOW!!

SAY WHAT!?

SHU UN SHO! KEN SAN UN! I COULD USE A HAND HERE!

YOUR TEMPO IS TOO FAST.

NO, NOT LIKE THAT.

LIKE THIS?

EXECU-TIONER!

SHE'S RIGHT.

...WE CAN'T RISK LOSING THE BARRIER...

TAN HI, CAN WE LET GO OF THE SASH...

I WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANYTHING ELSE.

MY ROLE IN THIS IS TO SIMPLY BLOW THE WHISTLE.

RIGHT NOW WE'RE KIND OF BUSY.

COULD YOU BE QUIET?

KICHO .....

BAS-TARD...

I'LL JUST DO EVERY-THING MYSELF !!

THE LAST ONE...

YOU DAMN ASS HOLE!

ゴトン

!?

WOW, AMAZ-ING!!

NOW I KNOW.

THEY DIED ABOUT 200 YEARS AGO. RIGHT AROUND THE SAME TIME OF THE WAR OF THE FADING DUSK.

UM...SIR SHO, ARE YOU OKAY?

DAMN YOU... DAMN YOU ALL...

WE'VE WASTED TOO MUCH TIME HERE ALREADY.

LET'S GET A MOVE ON.

WAH!

YEAH, BUT STILL...

A STONE STATUE... THERE'S NO DOUBT, THIS IS THE VALLEY OF THE PUPPET.

THOUGH I CAN'T SEE ANY-THING LIKE THAT.

THEY SAY THAT ITS WEAK POINT LIES IN ITS NECK.

HMM... YOU'LL NEED TO PULL SOME KIND OF TRICK ONCE IT STARTS MOVING...

I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HIT IT WITH MY BOW...

JUST AS I EXPECTED ...

WHAT?

WHY DON'T WE GET SHO FU KAN TO BECOME A DECOY?

NEXT TIME ASK ME FIRST, ALRIGHT?

...

MAYBE WE CAN GET ITS WEAK POINT ONCE IT STARTS MOVING.

IT MIGHT JUST WORK.

IT'S JUST A PILE OF ROCKS. I CAN'T SEE IT MOVING MUCH.

WAH!

THIS STONE STATUE IS PRETTY FAST!!

HAA...

...YOU GUYS ARE SO LAZY!

HMM.

APPARENTLY THE STONE STATUE ONLY TARGETS THE ONE WHO IT THINKS IS TRYING TO ATTACK IT.

AH,

WHAT ABOUT ITS WEAK POINT!?

HURRY, DO SOME-THING!

E!!!

LEAVE IT TO ME.

THE STONE STATUE IS UNDER A MAGICAL SPELL. IF YOU DESTROY THAT THE STATUE IS DONE FOR.

IT'S TOO HARD TO HIT IT WHILE IT'S MOVING.

WAH!

OH, SHIT...

SIR SHO!

!

I GUESS I'LL JUST FINISH THIS.

BE SILENT !!

YOU GOD-DAMN STONE STATUE!

AHH...

I STOPPED IT!!

OH, NO!!

AS EXPECTED OF THE KEEN-EYED SHARP-SHOOTER, HE NEVER MISSES WHEN IT MATTERS.

HEH.

GAH!?

KUH

...

MAN, I'M SO GLAD.

WITHOUT MY BROTHERS ARROW YOU WOULD PROBABLY BE A GONER!

...

HAA... ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SIR SHO?

AND HERE'S ME THINKING THIS PLACE HAD A REPUTATION FOR BEING DIFFICULT.

...

I'M SURPRISED HOW EASY THAT ACTUALLY WAS.

DON'T LAG BEHIND.

COME ON, SHO.

NOW, LET'S MOVE ONTO THE THIRD BARRIER...

I'M GOING ON MY OWN.

FROM HERE ON OUT.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

END OF CHAPTER 18